

CLAIMS

7/1/02
5 1. A peptide factor derived from amino acid residues 33 to 42 of murine epidermal growth factor peptide or a synthetic equivalent thereof wherein the peptide factor is modified to protect it from proteolytic degradation and the peptide binds to laminin receptors wherein the modifications consist of at least one modification chosen from the group comprising; substitution of tyrosine by tyrosine analogues and substitution of arginine by arginine analogues.

2. A peptide as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the peptide is further modified by at least one modification chosen from the group comprising capping the N terminal of the peptide, capping the C terminal of the peptide and capping thiol groups of cysteine.

3. A peptide as claimed in claims 1 or 2 wherein tyrosine is substituted by Tic-OH.

10 4. A peptide as claimed in claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein arginine is substituted by Citrulline.

5. Use of a peptide factor as claimed in any of the preceding claims in the preparation of a medicament to bind laminin receptors as an antagonist.

15 6. Use as claimed in any of the preceding claims in the preparation of a medicament to bind laminin receptors as an agonist.

7. Use as claimed in claim 6 in the preparation of a medicament for healing endothelial cell wounding.

8. Use as claimed in claim 8 or 9 for the treatment of retinopathy of immaturity.